



**AFRL-RY-WP-TP-2009-1306**

## **A MODULATION BASED APPROACH TO WIDEBAND-STAP (BRIEFING CHARTS)**

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**C & P Technologies, Inc.**

**OCTOBER 2007**

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<b>REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE</b>				<i>Form Approved</i> OMB No. 0704-0188	
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<b>1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YY)</b> October 2007		<b>2. REPORT TYPE</b> Conference Briefing Charts		<b>3. DATES COVERED (From - To)</b> 25 May 2006 – 19 October 2007	
<b>4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE</b> A MODULATION BASED APPROACH TO WIDEBAND-STAP (BRIEFING CHARTS)				<b>5a. CONTRACT NUMBER</b> FA8750-06-C-0117	
				<b>5b. GRANT NUMBER</b>	
				<b>5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER</b> 62204F	
<b>6. AUTHOR(S)</b> Ke Yong Li (C & P Technologies, Inc.) Unnikrishna S. Pillai (Polytechnic University) Peter Zulch (AFRL/RIEC) Michael Callahan (AFRL/RVRT)				<b>5d. PROJECT NUMBER</b> 5017	
				<b>5e. TASK NUMBER</b> RL	
				<b>5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER</b> 517R1511	
<b>7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">           C &amp; P Technologies, Inc. 317 Harrington Avenue Suites 9 &amp; 10 Closter, NJ 07624-1911 ----- Polytechnic University Brooklyn, NY 11201         </div> <div style="width: 45%;">           Communications Exploitation Branch (AFRL/RIEC) Information and Intelligence Exploitation Division Air Force Research Laboratory 525 Brooks Road, Rome, NY 13441-4505 United States Air Force ----- Radar Signal Processing Branch (AFRL/RVRT) RF Sensor Technology Division Air Force Research Laboratory, Sensors Directorate Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH 45433-7320 Air Force Materiel Command, United States Air Force         </div> </div>				<b>8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER</b>	
<b>9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b> Air Force Research Laboratory Sensors Directorate Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH 45433-7320 Air Force Materiel Command United States Air Force				<b>10. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY ACRONYM(S)</b>  AFRL/RVRT  <b>11. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER(S)</b> AFRL-RY-WP-TP-2009-1306	
<b>12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT</b> Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.					
<b>13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES</b> Conference presentation published in the Proceedings of the 41st Annual Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers, held November 04 - 07, 2007 at the Asilomar Hotel and Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, CA. PAO Case Number: WPAFB 07-0332; Clearance date: 05 Nov 2007. Briefing contains color. See also, AFRL-RY-WP-TP-2009-1307 for a preprint version of the paper based on the briefing, and AFRL-RY-WP-TP-2009-1308 for a postprint version. The U.S. Government is joint author of this work and has the right to use, modify, reproduce, release, perform, display, or disclose the work. Paper contains color.					
<b>14. ABSTRACT</b> In this presentation, a new method for processing wideband radar data is presented. To perform the full degree of freedom wideband processing, 3-D space-time adaptive processing (STAP) needs to be implemented, which involves intense computational burden. One approach in this case is to do subband STAP processing and combine these outputs. In this presentation, instead of traditional subband processing, the incoming wide band data signal is modulated by multiple carriers, combined, and filtered prior to processing using narrowband STAP. This method offers a significant decrease in computation burden compared to the subband method.					
<b>15. SUBJECT TERMS</b> wideband space-time adaptive processing					
<b>16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:</b>			<b>17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT:</b> SAR	<b>18. NUMBER OF PAGES</b> 30	<b>19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON (Monitor)</b> Michael J. Callahan <b>19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)</b> N/A
<b>a. REPORT</b> Unclassified	<b>b. ABSTRACT</b> Unclassified	<b>c. THIS PAGE</b> Unclassified			

# **A Modulation Based Approach to Wideband-STAP**

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## Outline

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- **Wideband Array Data Modeling**
- **Optimum Wideband Processor**
- **Subband Processing**
- **New Approach: Subband Combining without Partitioning**
- **Conclusions**

# Time-Domain Wideband Clutter Generation

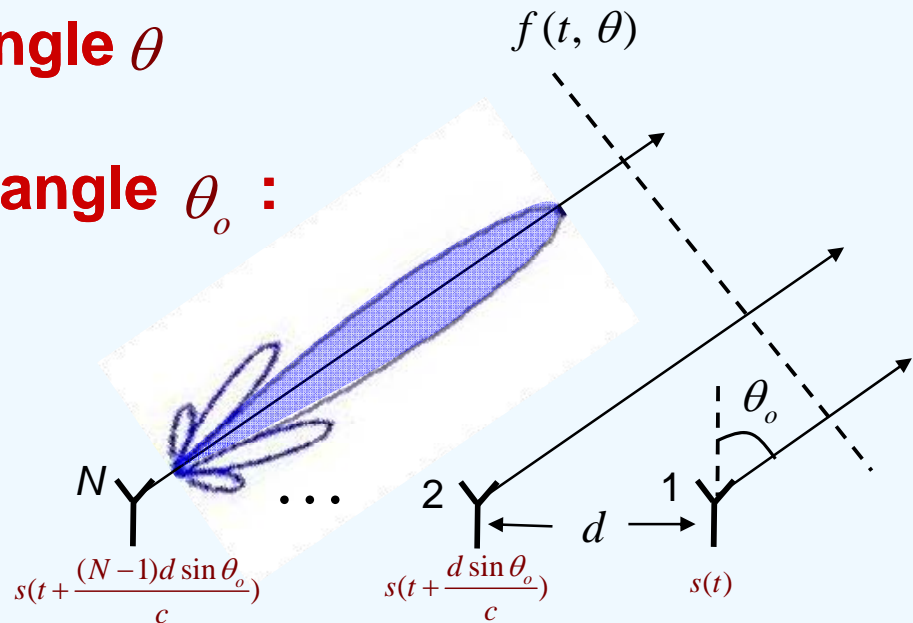
- Wideband signal  $s(t)$  is transmitted from all sensors
- Delay taps are used at sensors to focus the transmitted signal to a specific look angle  $\theta_o$

$f(t, \theta)$  : combined signal at angle  $\theta$

Combined signal at desired angle  $\theta_o$  :

$$f(t, \theta_o) = N s(t)$$

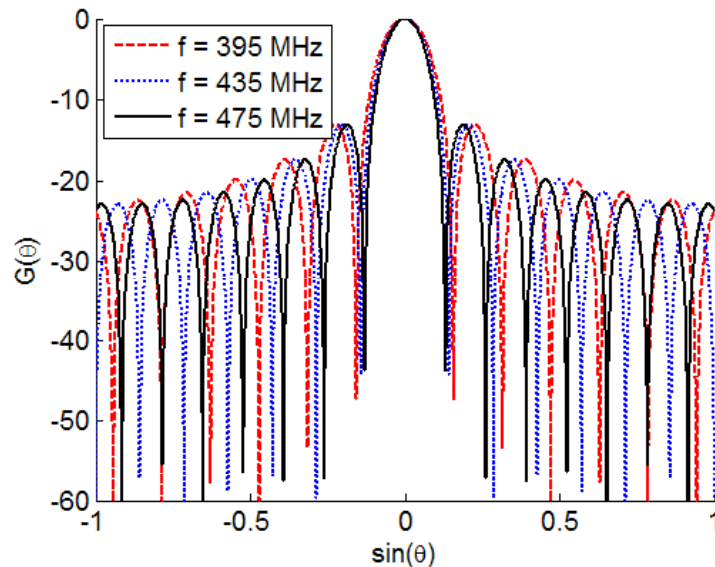
The combined signal at the desired look angle has been coherently amplified by a factor of  $N$ .



# Time-Domain Wideband Clutter Generation

- For any other angle, the signals from different sensors will add up incoherently resulting in a transmit array gain pattern
- Combined signal at an arbitrary angle is given by:

$$f(t, \theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N s \left( t - (n-1) \frac{d (\sin \theta - \sin \theta_o)}{c} \right).$$



- **Bandwidth**  $BW = 80 \text{ MHz}$
- **Center frequency**  $f_c = 435 \text{ MHz}$
- **Number of sensors**  $N = 14$
- **Interelement spacing**  $d = 0.33 \text{ m}$
- **Look angle**  $\theta_o = 0^\circ$
- **PRF**  $= 625 \text{ Hz}$

**Mountain Top Radar  
Parameters are used**

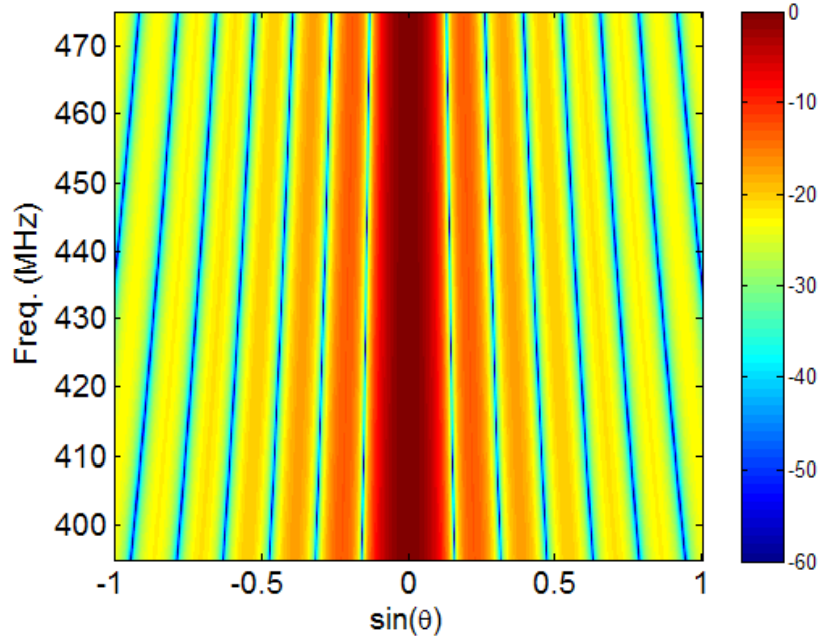
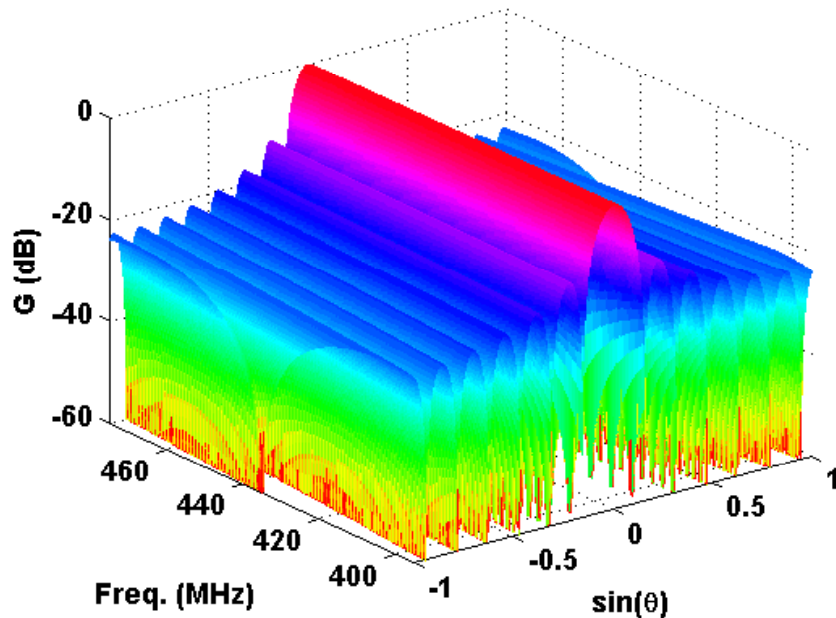
# Frequency Sensitive Array Gain Pattern

## Array Amplitude Pattern

$$C(\theta, \omega_k) = \sum_{i=1}^N e^{-j2\pi \frac{d}{\lambda_k} (i-1) \sin \theta},$$

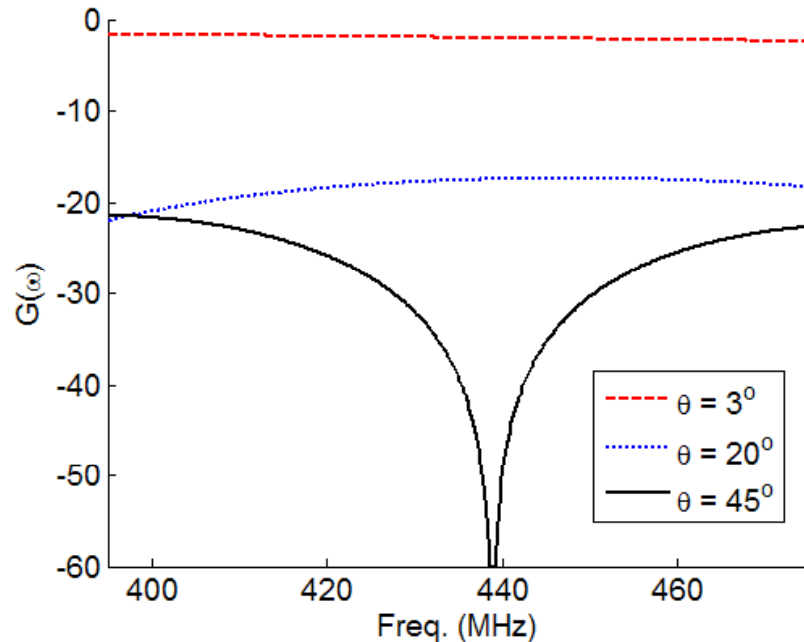
## Array Gain Pattern

$$G(\theta, \omega_k) = |C(\theta, \omega_k)|^2$$

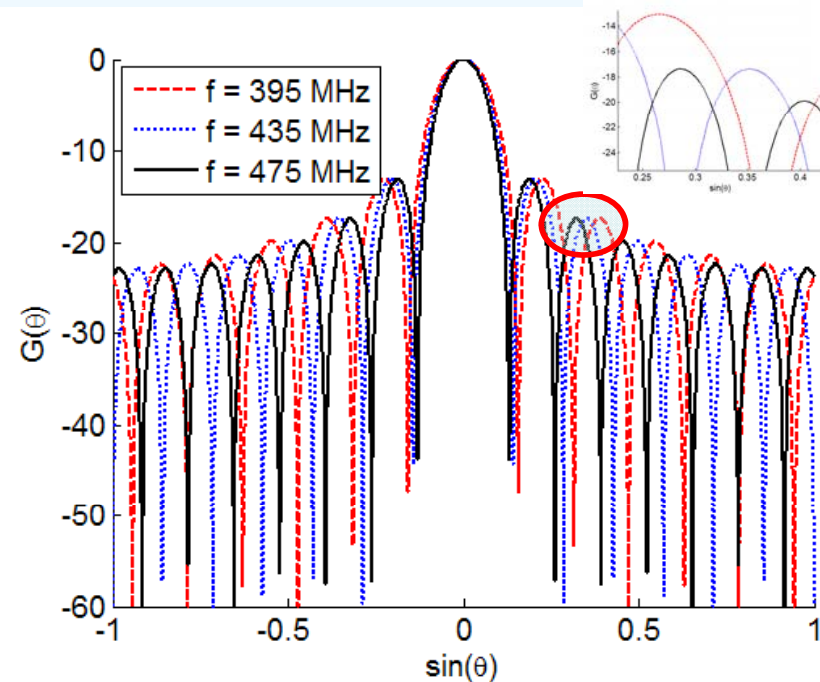


**Bandwidth = 395 MHz - 475 MHz (80 MHz), Sensors used: 14**

# Array Gain Pattern (Freq. Domain)



**Array gain pattern as function of frequency for different angles**



**Array gain pattern as function of angle for different frequencies**

# Time-Domain Wideband Clutter Generation

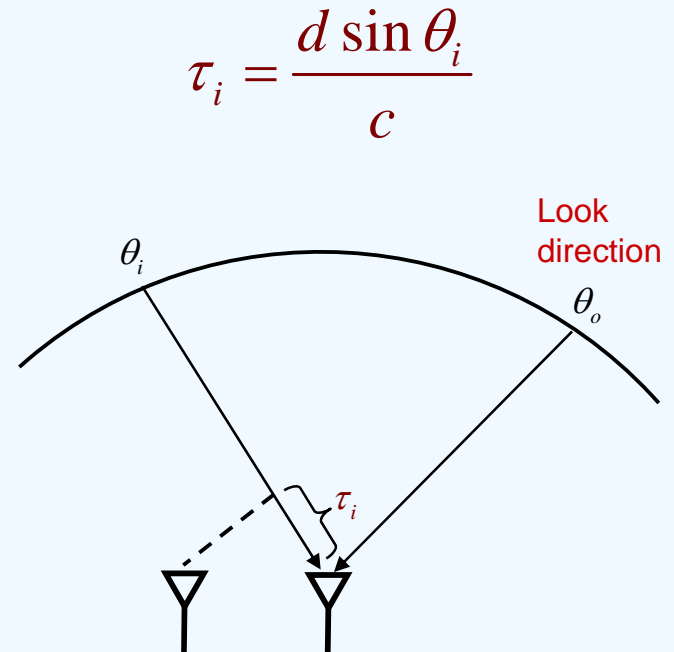
- The received signal vector arriving from  $\theta_i$  for all the sensors is given by:

$$\underline{r}(t, \theta_i) = \alpha_i \begin{bmatrix} f(t, \theta_i) \\ f(t - \tau_i, \theta_i) \\ \vdots \\ f(t - (N-1)\tau_i, \theta_i) \end{bmatrix}$$

Clutter scatter return

- Wideband data vector received from all the azimuth angles is:

$$\underline{x}(t) = \sum_i \underline{r}(t, \theta_i)$$



# Wideband STAP

**$N$  sensors,  $M$  pulses, Target in Clutter and Noise**

$$\underline{x}(t) = \underline{f}(t) + \underline{c}(t)$$

$$\underline{x}(t) = \left[ \underline{x}_1(t), \underline{x}_2(t), \dots, \underline{x}_M(t) \right]^T$$

$M^{th}$  pulse output

$$\underline{x}_i(t) = \left[ x_{i,1}(t), x_{i,2}(t), \dots, x_{i,N}(t) \right]$$

$N^{th}$  sensor output

**Target at  $\theta_o$ , moving with velocity  $V$  (both parameters are unknown)**

$$f_{ik}(t) = f(t - (i-1)\tau_1 - (k-1)\tau_2)$$

**Sensor**

**Pulse**

$$\text{Spatial: (Azimuth)} \quad \tau_1 = \frac{d \sin \theta_o}{c}, \quad \text{Temporal: (Doppler)} \quad \tau_2 = \frac{2V T_r \sin \theta_o}{c} = \beta \tau_1$$

# Optimum Wideband Processor

**Interference Covariance Matrix:**  $\mathbf{R}_c = E \{ \underline{x}(t) \underline{x}^*(t) \}$

**Optimum Processor:**

**(1) Whitening followed by (2) Matched Filter**

**(1) Whitening Filter  $\mathbf{H}(z)$**

$$\underline{x}(t) \Rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{R}_c^{-1/2}} \Rightarrow \underline{y}(t) = \mathbf{R}_c^{-1/2} \underline{f}(t) + \underline{w}(t)$$

White noise

$$\left[ \underbrace{[f(t), \dots, f(t - (N-1)\tau_1)]}_{\text{First pulse return}} \quad \underbrace{[f(t - \tau_2), \dots, f(t - \tau_2 - (N-1)\tau_1)]}_{\text{Second pulse return}} \quad \underbrace{[\dots, \dots, \dots]}_{\text{m}^{\text{th}} \text{ pulse return}} \right]^T$$

# Optimum Wideband Processor – Freq. Domain

$$\underline{Y}(\omega) = F(\omega) \mathbf{R}_c^{-1/2} \left[ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ e^{-j\omega\tau_1} \\ \vdots \\ e^{-j\omega(N-1)\tau_1} \\ e^{-j\omega\tau_2} \underline{a}(\theta, \omega) \\ \vdots \\ e^{-j\omega(M-1)\tau_2} \underline{a}(\theta, \omega) \end{array} \right] + \underline{w}(\omega)$$

**Frequency Sensitive  
STAP Steering Vector**

$$\underline{b}(V, \omega) \otimes \underline{a}(\theta, \omega) = \underline{s}(\theta, V, \omega)$$

$$= F(\omega) \mathbf{R}_c^{-1/2} \underline{s}(\theta, V, \omega) + \underline{w}(\omega) = \underline{c} + \underline{v}$$

**(2) Matched Filter is given by  $\underline{c}^*$**

# Optimum Wideband Processor



$$Z = \underline{c}^* \underline{Y}(\omega)$$

$$= \left( \underline{s}^*(\theta, V, \omega) \mathbf{R}_c^{-1/2} \right) \left( \mathbf{R}_c^{-1/2} \underline{X}(\omega) \right)$$

$$= \underline{s}^*(\theta, V, \omega) \mathbf{R}_c^{-1} \underline{X}(\omega) = \underline{W}^*(\omega) \underline{X}(\omega)$$

## Optimum wideband STAP Processor:

$$\underline{W}(\omega) = \mathbf{R}_c^{-1} \underline{s}(\theta, V, \omega)$$

Frequency sensitive processor. Same form as in the narrowband case; Difficult to implement.

## Wideband STAP Processor

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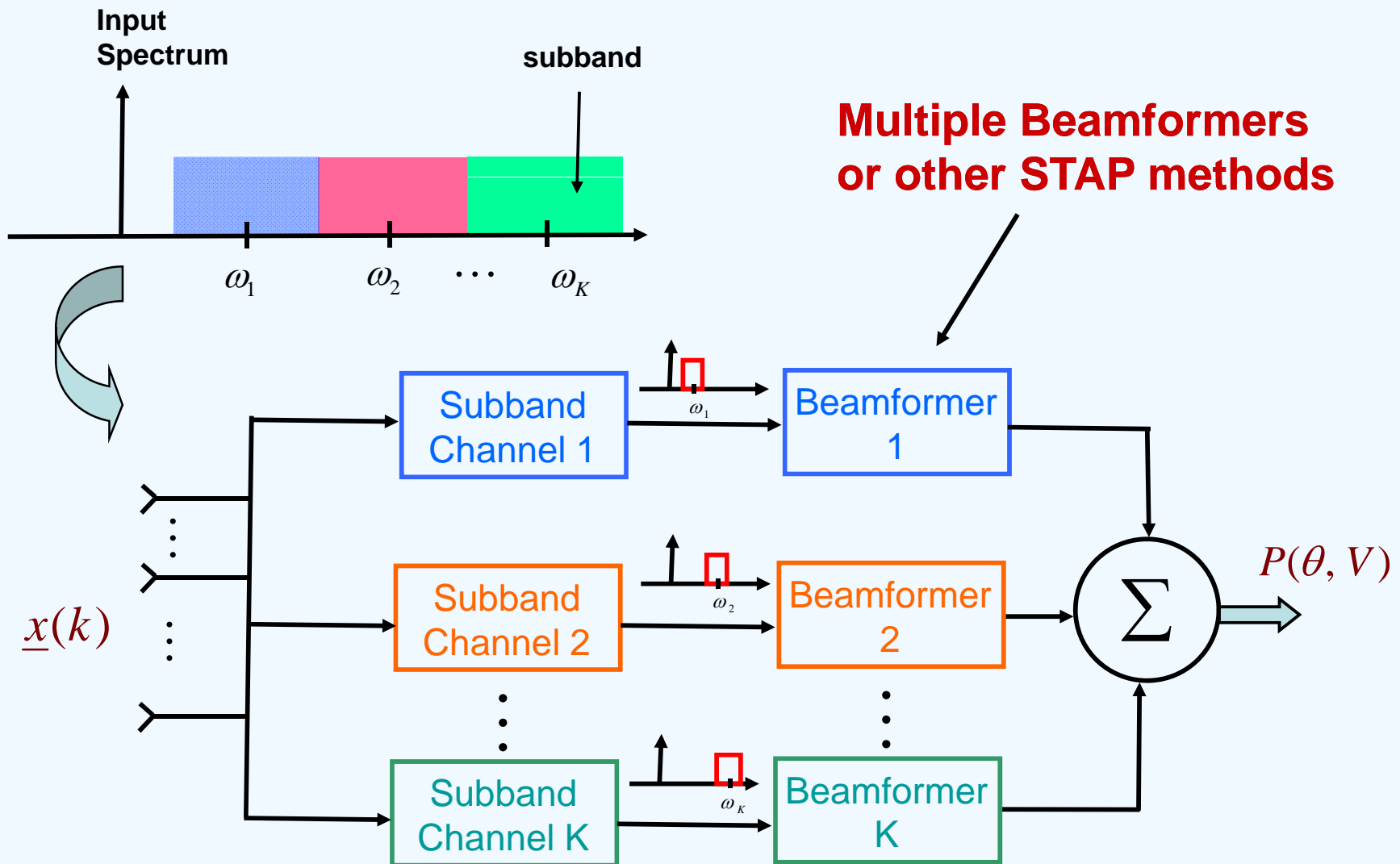
- Phase delays become frequency sensitive filters
- STAP Processor must be compensated at *all* frequencies – difficult to implement

**In practice, use subband schemes**

**Subband schemes are suboptimal since narrowband processing is done on each subband**

**Objective: Avoid subband processing**

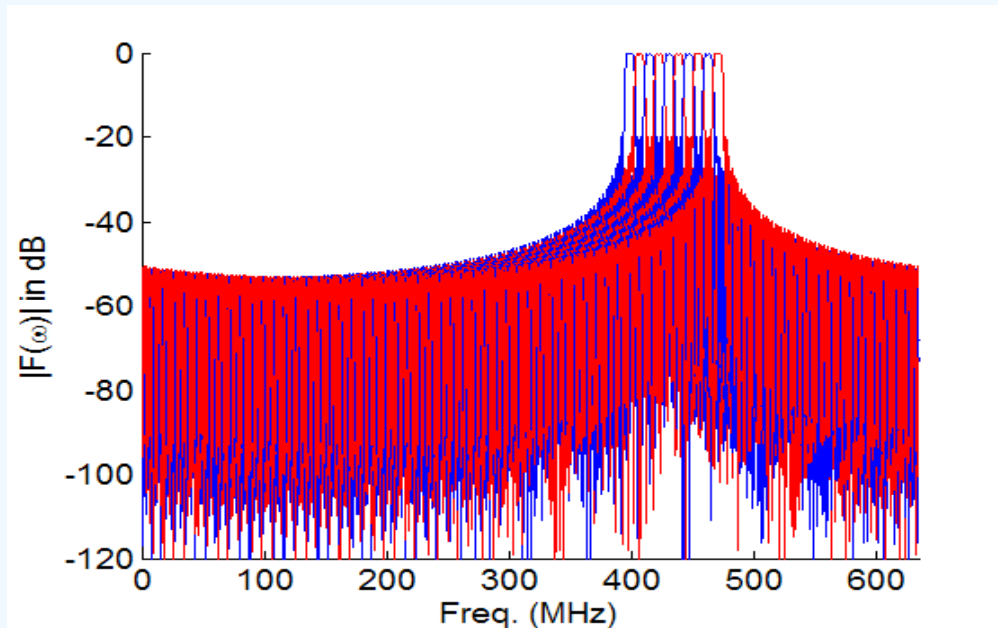
# Multiple Subband STAP



## Subband Filter Design

### Subband filter design using modulated linear phase low pass FIR filters

$$h_{BP}(n) = h_{LP}(n) e^{j2\pi f_i n T_s} \leftrightarrow H_{BP}(e^{j\omega}) = H_{LP}(e^{j(\omega - 2\pi f_i)})$$

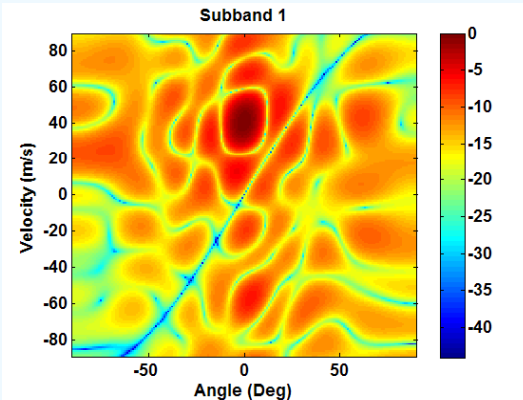


- Signal BW = 80 MHz
- 8 MHz (3dB BW)
- 10 Sub-Bands

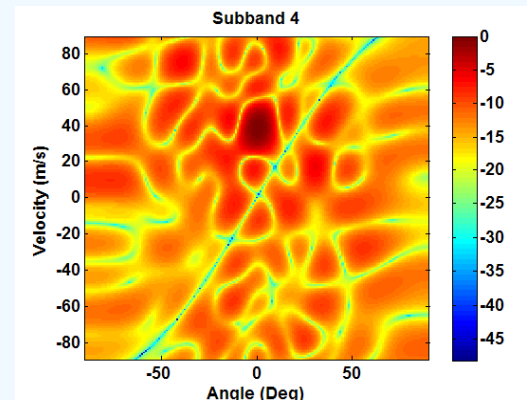
**Mountain Top radar carrier freq. = 435 MHz. Wideband data BW = 80 MHz**

# Typical Subband STAP Outputs (SMIDL)

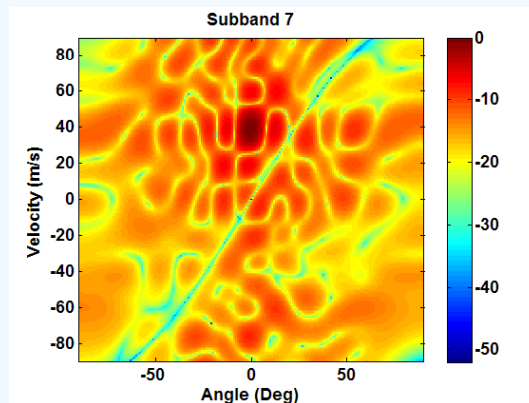
SMIDL with subarray smoothing using 20 Samples



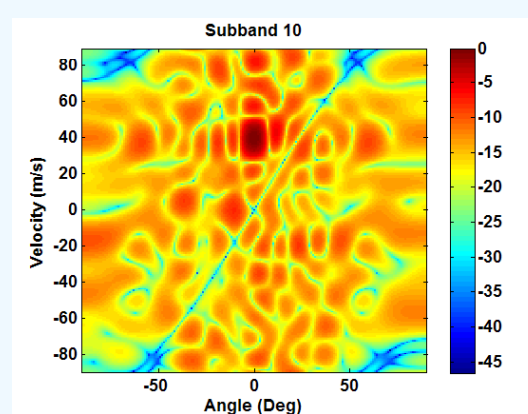
(a) Subband 1, Freq. = 395 MHz



(b) Subband 4, Freq. = 419 MHz



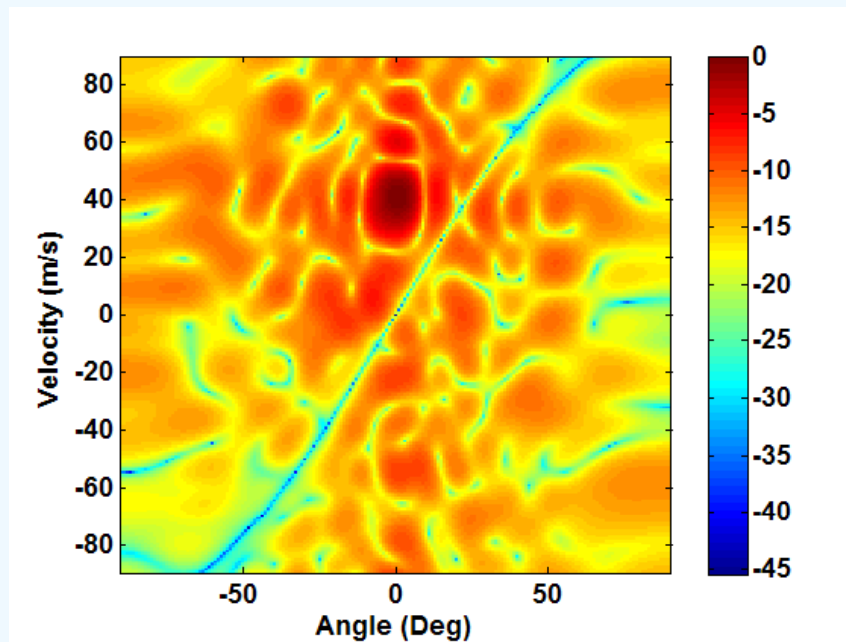
(c) Subband 7, Freq. = 443 MHz



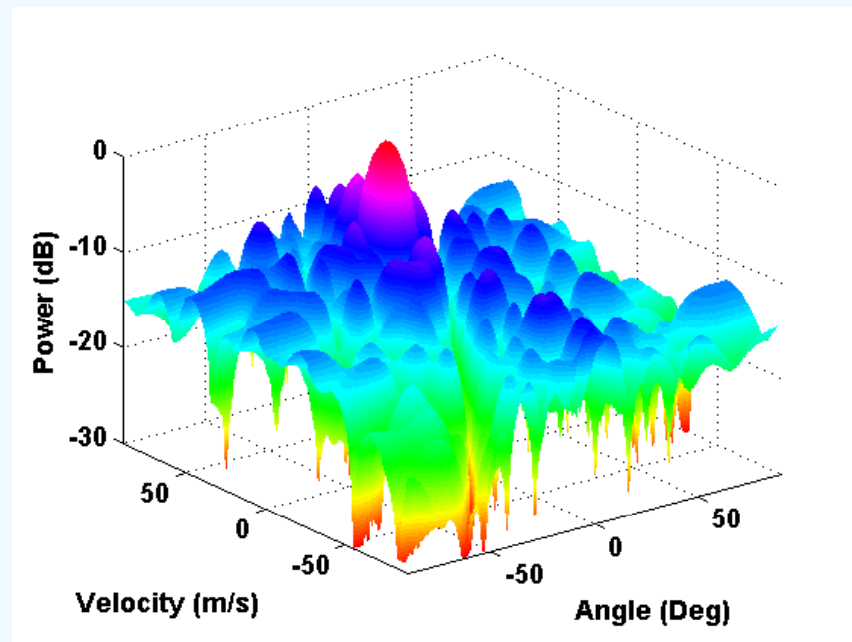
(d) Subband 10, Freq. = 467 MHz

**CNR = 40dB, SNR = 0dB, Target at 0° moving at 40m/s**

## Subband Averaging (10 Subbands)



(a) Top View



(b) Side View

**Substantial computational burden for  
subband methods**

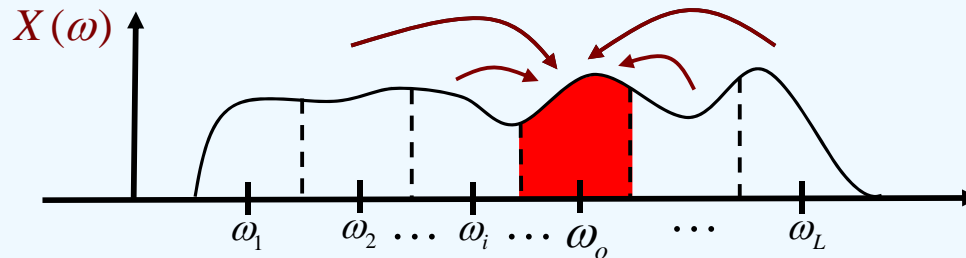
# **New Approach Subband Combining Without Subband Partitioning**

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## **Objectives:**

- **Use the entire wideband information**
- **Avoid/minimize subbanding**
- **Take advantage of narrowband STAP**

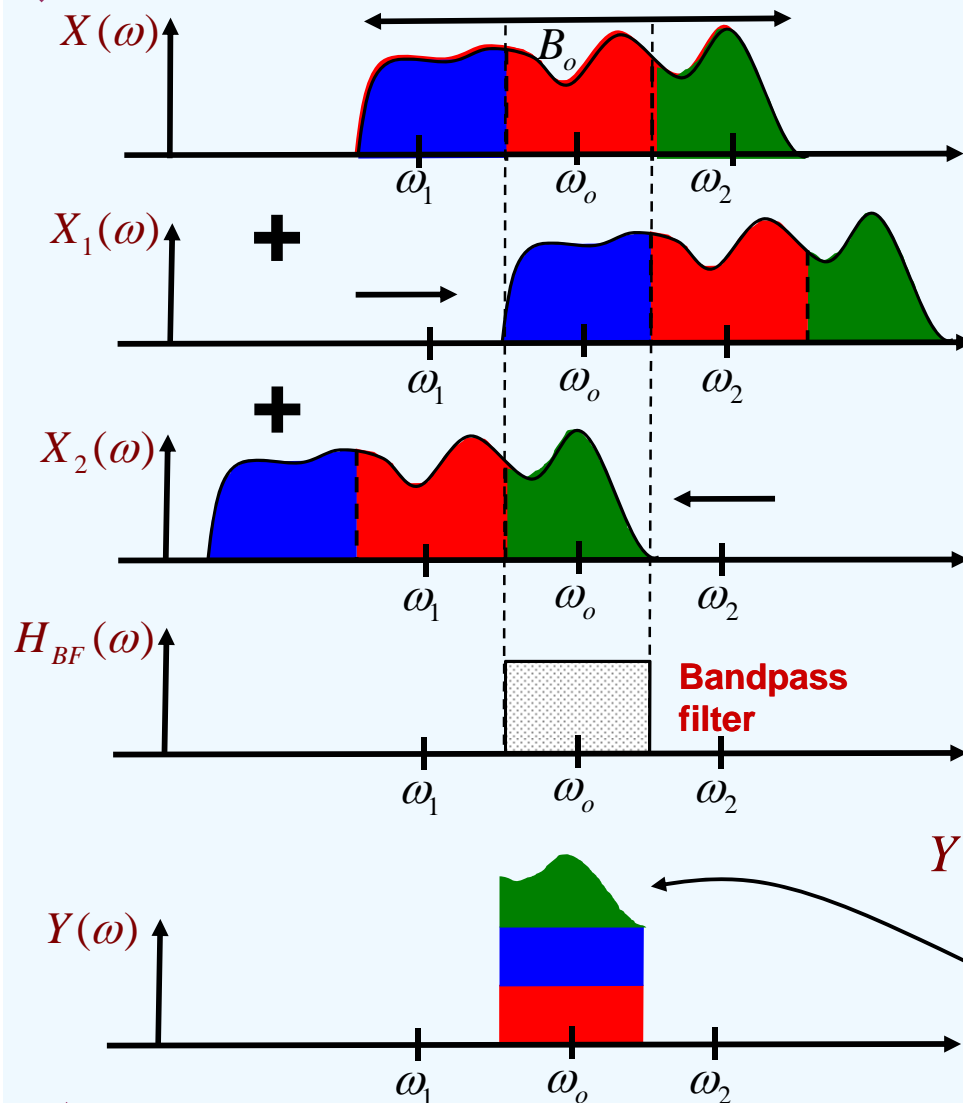
# Wideband Processing: Subband Combining Without Subband Partitioning



- Imagine the wideband signal partitioned into  $L$  subbands (No physical partitioning)
- Select one band centered at  $\omega_o$  for actual processing
- Modulate the signal by various carrier frequencies and align the subbands with the selected band
- Perform a single subband filtering at the final stage
- Apply narrowband STAP and align the outputs

**Modulate, Combine, Filter and Align**

# Subband Combining Without Subband Partitioning Example



- Entire bandwidth is partitioned into subbands
- Data is modulated by different carrier freq. and then combined

- A single band pass filter is applied to the summed data

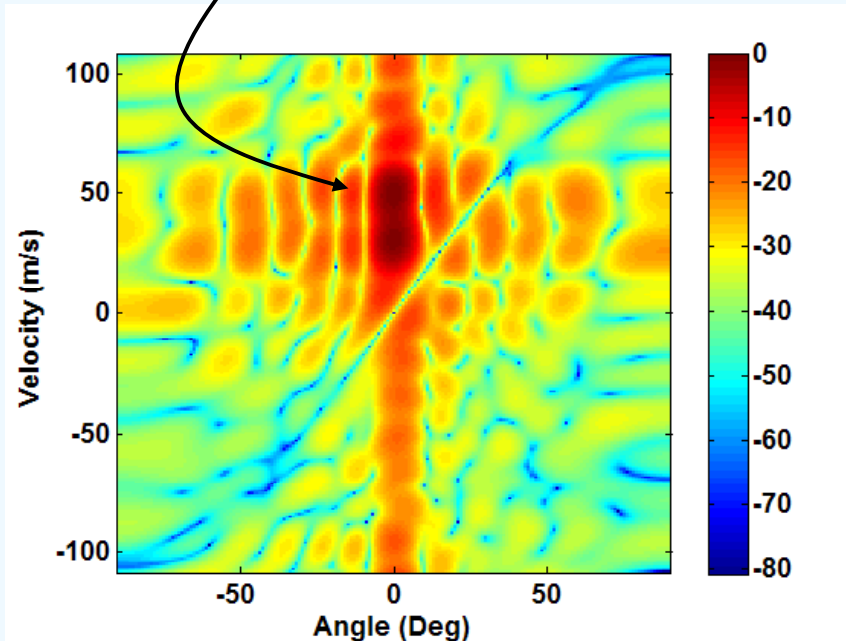
$$y(n) = x(n) \sum_{k=0}^2 e^{j(\omega_o - \omega_k)n} * h_{BP}(n)$$

$$Y(\omega) = (X(\omega) + X_1(\omega) + X_2(\omega)) H_{BP}(\omega)$$

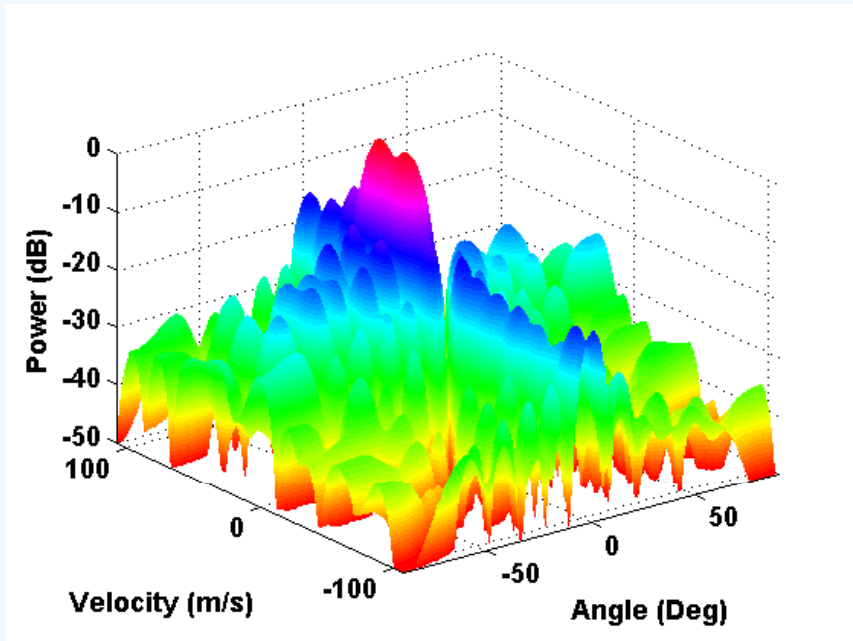
**Narrowband STAP on  $y(n)$**

# Modulate, Combine and Filter – 10 Modulations

**Doppler spread**



(a) Top View

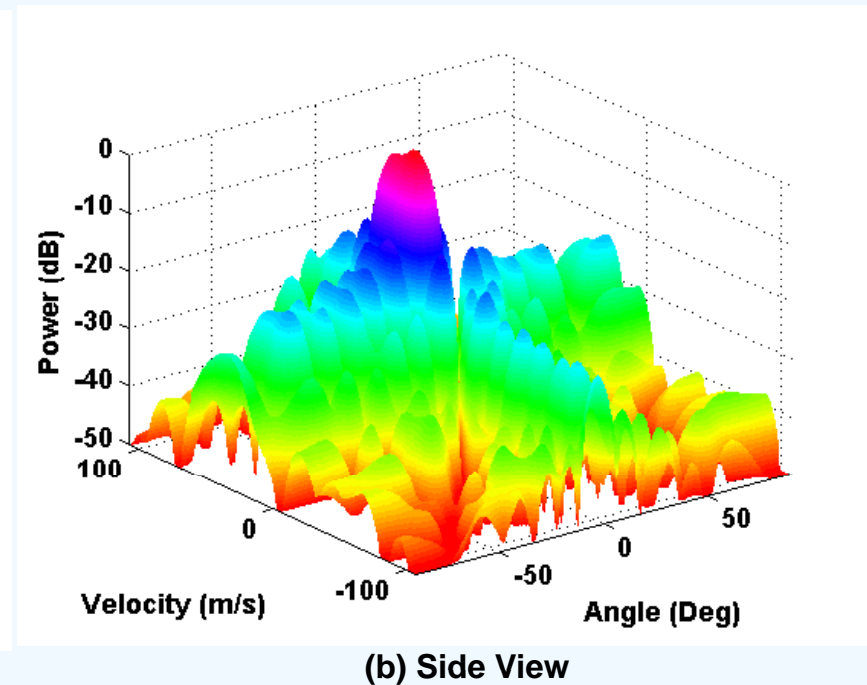
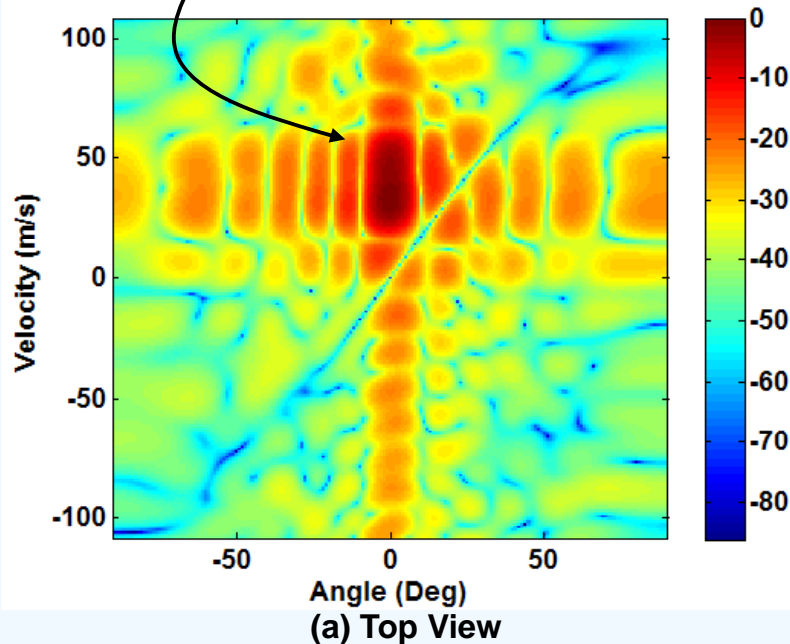


(b) Side View

**Data is modulated by 10 carrier frequencies to 435 MHz.  
SMIDL using data at 435 MHz with 10 range samples.**

# Modulate, Combine and Filter – 20 Modulations

**Doppler spread**



**Data is modulated by 20 carrier frequencies to 435 MHz.  
SMIDL using data at 435 MHz with 10 range samples.**

## Modulate, Combine, Filter and Align

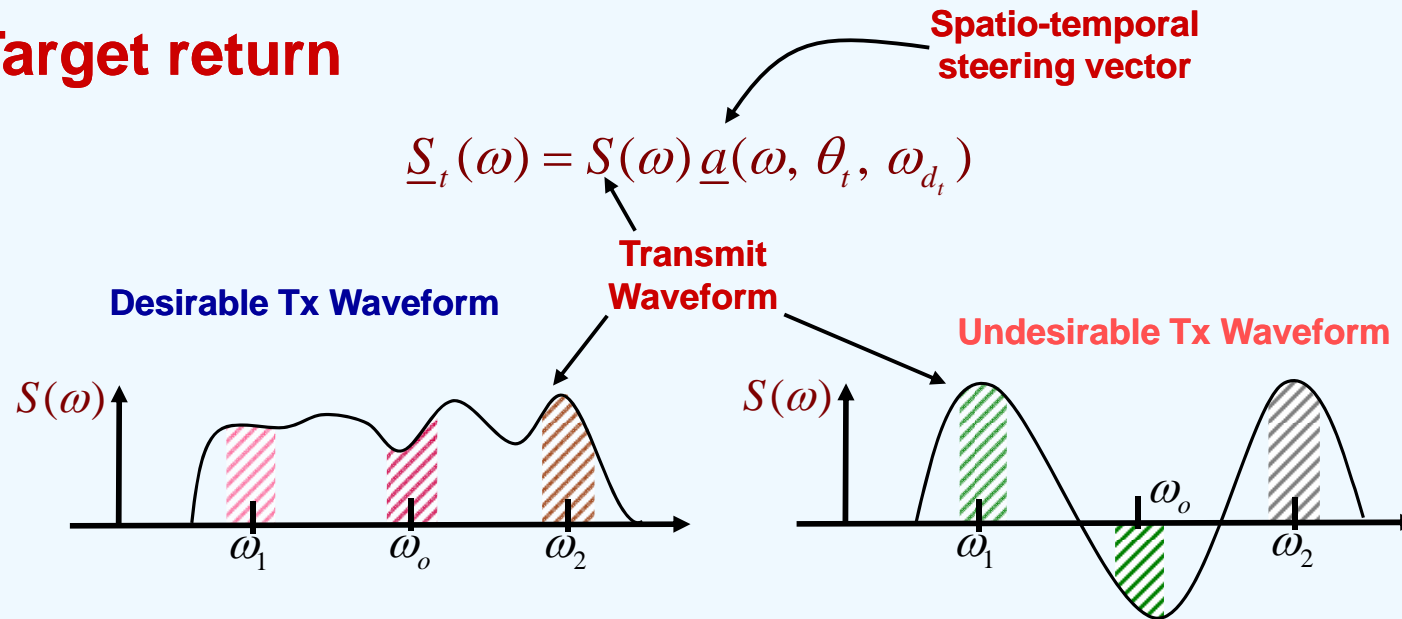
- A single target at  $\theta_1$  in the filtered data generates multiple direction vectors corresponding to frequencies  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_L$
- Or equivalently, processing at  $\omega_o$  generates multiple targets at  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_L$  where

$$\omega_o \sin \theta_1 = \omega_k \sin \theta_k, \quad k = 2, 3, \dots, L$$

- “Angle-Doppler spread” in STAP output spectrum processed at a single frequency  $\omega_o$
- Align the angle-Doppler spectrum to compensate for the Doppler spread

# Waveform Design for Coherent Combining

- Target return



- Transmit waveform magnitude/phase variations should be minimized (Waveform Design)
- Present method avoids subband processing (one subband only) and uses the entire wideband information
- Takes advantage of narrowband STAP

## Conclusions

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- **Method presented here is ideal for initial search over a large region**
- **Present method avoids subband processing (one subband only) and uses the entire wideband information**
- **Doppler spreading needs to be compensated**
- **Use waveform diversity for coherent combining.**